

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated December 14, 2004, and the references cited therewith.

Claim 1 is canceled, and claims 2-40 are newly added; as a result, claims 2-40 are now pending in this application.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicant submitted an Information Disclosure Statement and a 1449 Form on November 21, 2003. Applicant respectfully requests that initialed copies of the 1449 Forms be returned to Applicants' Representatives to indicate that the cited references have been considered by the Examiner.

Double Patenting Rejection

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claim 1 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,671,351. Applicant has canceled claim 1 and respectfully requests withdrawal of the double patenting rejection.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney at (612) 373-6912 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

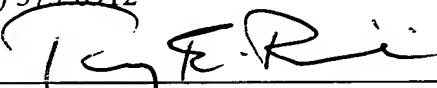
Respectfully submitted,

RAYMOND J. MENARD ET AL.

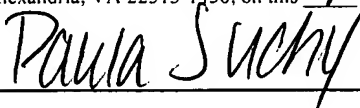
By their Representatives,

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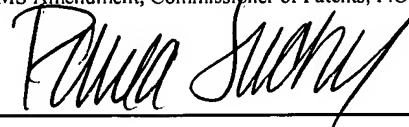
Date Mar. 4, 2005

By 
Timothy E. Bianchi
Reg. No. 39,610

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 7 day of March, 2005.



Name



Signature